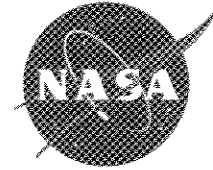


National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



August 5, 2011

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA employees at the Luncheon Sponsored by Ball Aerospace at the NPP Executive Preview on August 8, 2011 in Boulder, CO.

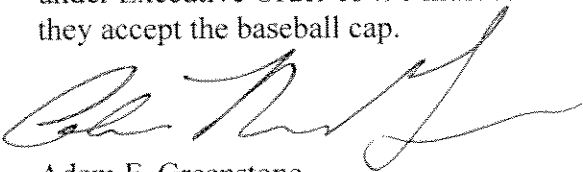
On August 8, 2011, in Boulder, Colorado, Ball Aerospace will host a press conference and tour to provide information about the delivery and launch preparation for the NPP Satellite. This will be a half-day program in which Ball employees, other instrument contractors, local government leadership, and NASA and NOAA personnel will provide information about the satellite to media representatives. In addition to presentations this will include a facility tour, spacecraft viewing, and interview opportunities. Ball will also host a luncheon valued at \$15 per person in its Tuskegee Conference Center.

The luncheon will be an opportunity for the scheduled speakers to continue their presentations on the program. Approximately 65 people are expected to attend, including members of the media, local government and community leaders, congressional staff, NASA, NOAA and other executive branch personnel, representatives from academia, and Ball and industrial partner employees. I find that the event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(2).

There is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the luncheon because it will further Agency programs or operations. Attendance at the event will allow NASA attendees to exchange information regarding NPP and other NASA programs, and provide information about NASA to the media for public dissemination.

NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect Ball may accept an invitation for free attendance to the event. They may additionally accept the gift of a baseball cap commemorating NPP value at \$8. However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect Ball, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.

Moreover, NASA employees in non-career positions who are required to sign the ethics pledge under Executive Order 13490 must reimburse Ball \$15 if they attend the luncheon and \$8 if they accept the baseball cap.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam F. Greenstone', with a stylized, flowing script.

Adam F. Greenstone